

Cart-Mounted Generator Pumps Water, Powers Tools

Bill Snyder uses his "generator cart" to operate a 110-volt sump pump in a creek that supplies water for his garden. The generator bolts onto a steel frame he welded on front of the cart, leaving room in the cart for eight 5-gal. plastic containers of water. A removable plywood cover keeps the generator dry at all times.

"I use the generator cart to haul the water about 1/4 mile to our garden," says Snyder. "For years I used the sump pump with a small generator that I hauled on a trailer. However, after I loaded the trailer with buckets of water there wasn't room for the generator. I'm 84 years old and the generator was difficult for me to lift, so I left it behind and chained it to a tree to keep anyone from stealing it. Another problem was that the generator was difficult to cover, so after a rain it was often hard to

start. Now it stays on my trailer all the time.

"Another advantage is that I can use the generator to operate tools in remote areas that don't have electricity, and even use it in an emergency to power our house."

A neighbor gave him an old, small 2-wheeled yard cart without any sides, so Snyder used 1/2-in. thick plywood to make new sides. "The 8-in. tires were worn out, so he cut them off and drilled new bolt holes in the wheels. Then he bolted on a pair of car spare tires that he already had.

The generator is bolted to an angle iron frame that he welded on front of the cart. "The added weight of the generator on front made it hard to hook the cart up to my garden tractor, so I welded a tongue jack onto the trailer's tongue underneath the generator. I also made a one-piece box cover and screwed



Cart-mounted generator is used to operate a 110-volt sump pump that supplies water for Snyder's garden.

wooden handles on front and back of it, which makes the cover easy to remove," notes Snyder.

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Handy Wheeled Panel Mover

"Carrying heavy panels, sheet rock, and doors is easy with this 2-wheeled 'board carrier' that I put together. It has a long handle on it that makes carrying large, flat loads much easier, and reduces the possibility of back injury and muscle strain," says Quinton Tschetter, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

The carrier rides on a pair of 10-in. wheels with axle that Tschetter already had. A pair of 2-ft. long, 3/4-in. thick boards spaced about 2 1/2 in. apart are fastened on between the wheels and held secure by a pair of vertical strap irons. The floor - a 4-ft. length of plywood - extends beyond the boards to keep the carrier level when not in use. A threaded rod with a handle welded onto one end runs through a hole in one of the boards, and by turning the handle Tschetter can clamp the panel or door in place.

"The handle makes it easy to balance the load and move the carrier around," says



Long handle on 2-wheeled carrier makes carrying large panels easier.

Tschetter. "I came up with the idea because I'm 76 years old and not as strong these days. I used to handle plywood and sheet rock like they were toys, but not anymore."

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Flexible pipe delivers exhaust from towing vehicle back to a manifold that warms up compartment under cart's floor.

"Calf Taxi" Heated By Engine Exhaust

Marvin Packard came up with the idea for his Calf Taxi one cold winter day when he got the idea of using the exhaust from his pickup or ATV to warm a tow-behind calf cart.

The cart hooks to the receiver hitch on a pickup or hitches to an ATV with an adaptor hitch. It's big enough to hold two calves and rides on a single axle fitted with trailer wheels.

A flexible pipe simply fits over the exhaust pipe on the towing vehicle and runs back to a manifold that directs the heat to the compartment under the floor of the cart. As the space fills, exhaust is exhausted out the

other side and up through an exhaust pipe that runs to the top of the cart.

"In sub-zero weather the temperature inside the cart will get up to about 40 degrees. When it's 20 degrees out it'll get up to 50 to 60 degrees," says Packard.

He sells Calf Taxis for \$850 plus tax and freight. The hitch adaptor for ATV's sells for \$750.

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Lawn Vac Converted To Pto-Drive

Quinton Tschetter, Oskaloosa, Iowa, has about one acre of lawn to maintain with a lot of maple trees. He wanted to use his old Cyclone lawn vac to clean off the leaves, but the 8 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine was worn out and he didn't want to spend the money for a new one. So he converted the lawn vac to pto-drive off his Kubota garden tractor.

"It works great and makes fall cleanup much easier," says Tschetter, who made the conversion several years ago. "I already had a 2-wheeled Deere yard cart and converted it to a 4-ft. long, 3-ft. wide by 4-ft. high dump trailer. The only part I kept from the lawn vac was the blower."

The 23 hp. Kubota tractor is equipped with a 3-pt. hitch and a pair of pto shafts - one underneath the tractor that drives a belly-mounted mower, and the other on back. Tschetter built an angle iron bracket that attaches to the 3-pt. and also supports a driveshaft. It's connected to a 12-in. pulley, which belt-drives a smaller 2-in. pulley that operates the blower. Tschetter attached new 6-in. dia. flexible poly hose from the tractor's mower deck to the blower, and from the blower to the trailer. He also added a hitch on back of the bracket to pull the trailer.

"The dump trailer has sheet metal sides



When the engine on Tschetter's lawn vac wore out, he converted it to pto-drive off his Kubota garden tractor.

and is capped off by a 90 percent shade cloth that's covered by a tarp. The back side of the trailer is open to keep dust from blowing onto the driver," notes Tschetter.

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Big 31-in. dia. "blade" weighs 200 lbs. and can cut through sod up to 6 in. deep. Worked great to dig a trench to drain water away from a house.

Loader-Mounted "Disc Trencher"

"I built a skid loader-mounted trenching tool equipped with a big 31-in. dia. 'blade'. It weighs about 200 lbs. and can cut through sod up to 6 in. deep," says 84-year-old Bud Vogelzang, Sioux Center, Iowa.

Vogelzang built the trenching tool for his brother, who needed to dig a trench to drain water away from his house. "I bought the blade at a sale several years ago, and it laid in my grove for a long time before I found a use for it. My brother tried using the bucket on his 40 hp. New Holland skid loader to cut down through the sod, but it couldn't.

However, the big disc blade had no problem. It can be hydraulically tilted to change the angle and depth of cut."

Vogelzang says the disc blade, which probably came off an old disc plow, was mounted on a 2-in. dia. vertical shaft when he found it. He used 4-in. square tubing to weld a quick tach frame together, then bolted and U-clamped the shaft onto it.

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